What is Claimed is:

1. A postage metering system for dispensing postage, the system comprising:

a modem for receiving an incoming telephone call;

a printer module for printing on a recording medium;

a control system in operative communication with the modem and the printer module; the control system for:

storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;

translating the voice message into a computer based text; and

printing a print message from the computer based text using the printer module.

2. The postage metering system of claim 1, further comprising:

an input hopper for holding a stack of recording media; and

a transport module for feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and

wherein the control system is further for:

automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

3. The postage metering system of claim 2, wherein:

the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

4. The postage metering system of claim 3, wherein:

the recording medium is a strip tape.

5. The postage metering system of claim 1, wherein:
the control system is further for:
parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

6. The postage metering system of claim 5, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter is names.

7. The postage metering system of claim 4, wherein:
the control system is further for:
parsing the computer based text to create a special print characteristic within the print message to highlight critical data contained within the voice message in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

8. The postage metering system of claim 7, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.

9. The postage metering system of claim 8, further comprising:
a clock module for supplying real time clock data to the control system; and
wherein the control system is further for:
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and

printing the header information with the print message.

10. A method of operating a postage meter system for printing a message, the method comprising the step(s) of:

receiving an incoming telephone call;

storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;

translating the voice message into a computer based text; and

printing a print message on a recording medium from the computer based text using a printer module.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step(s) of:

storing a stack of recording media in an input hopper; and

feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and

automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein:

the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein:

the recording medium is a strip tape.

14. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step(s) of:

parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a

previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter is names.

16. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step(s) of:
parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step(s) of:
the previously established parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step(s) of:
using a clock module to supply real time clock data;
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and
printing the header information with the print message.

19. A method of operating a telephone answering machine, the method comprising the step(s) of:
receiving an incoming telephone call;
storing a voice message associated with the telephone call;
translating the voice message into a computer based text; and
printing a print message on a recording medium from the computer based text using a printer module.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step(s) of:
storing a stack of recording media in an input hopper; and
feeding the recording medium one at a time from the stack downstream in a path of travel past the printer module; and
automatically feeding the recording medium from the input hopper and initiating printing of the print message in response to a previously established print parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein:
the previously established print parameter is automatic printing in response to receipt of the voice message.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein:
the recording medium is a strip tape.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step(s) of:
parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein:
the previously established parsing parameter is names.

25. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step(s) of:
parsing the computer based text to create special print characteristics within the print message to highlight critical data in response to a

previously established parsing parameter set by an operator of the postage metering system.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising the step(s) of:
the previously established parsing parameter includes names as critical data and bold printing as the special print characteristic.

27. The method of claim 26, further comprising the step(s) of:
using a clock module to supply real time clock data;
creating header information associated with the voice message, the header information including a date/time stamp, a duration indication and a message number indication; and
printing the header information with the print message.